Amendments to the Claims

The following listing of claims replaces all prior listings and version of claims in this application.

Claims 1-9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently amended) [[The]] A pharmaceutical composition comprising as an active ingredient ~~of claim 9, wherein the~~ a peptide [[is]] selected from the group consisting of:

H-Lys-Gly-Asn-Tyr-Ala-Glu-Arg-Ileu- Ala-OH (SEQ ID NO: 1);

H-Asp-Thr-Glu-Phe-Glu-Ala-Ala-Gly-Gly-Gly-Val-Arg-OH (SEQ ID NO:2);

H-Thr-Thr-Asp-Thr-Glu-Phe-Glu-Ala-Ala-Gly-Gly-Gly-Val-Arg-OH (SEQ ID NO:4);

H-Lys-Gly-Asn-Tyr-MeAla-Glu-Arg-Ileu-Ala-OH (SEQ ID NO: 5);

H-Lys-Gly-Asn-Tyr-Ala-Glu-Arg-MeIleu-Ala-OH (SEQ ID NO:6);

H-Lys-MeGly-Asn-Tyr-Ala-Glu-Arg-~~Jleu~~Ileu-Ala-OH (SEQ ID NO:7);

H-Lys-MeGly-Asn-Tyr-Ala-Glu-Arg-MeIleu-Ala-[[OR]]OH (SEQ ID NO:8);

H-Lys-Gly-His-Tyr-Ala-Glu-Arg-Val-Gly-OH (SEQ ID NO:[[10]] 13);

~~H-Ala-Asp-Ser-Gly-Glu-Gly-Asp-Phe-Leu-Ala-Glu-Gly-Gly-Gly-Val-OH (SEQ ID NO:11);~~

H-Lys-Gly-Asn-Tyr-Ala-Glu-Arg-Val-Gly-OH (SEQ ID NO: [[12]] 10);

H-Lys-Ala-His-Tyr-Ser-Glu-Arg-Val-Gly-OH (SEQ ID NO: [[13]] 12);

H-Lys-Ser-Arg-Thr-Thr-Ser-His-Gly-Arg-Val-Gly-OH (SEQ ID NO: 14);

H-Lys-Gly-Asn-Tyr-Ser-Glu-Arg-Val-Gly-OH (SEQ ID NO:11);

H-Lys-MeGly-Asn-Tyr-MeAla-Glu-Arg-MeIleu-Ala-OH (SEQ ID NO:16); and

their analogs, homologs or derivatives, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or excipient.

Claims 11-12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim [[9]] 10, further comprising at least one protease inhibitor present in an amount sufficient to prevent peptide degradation.

14. (Currently amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim [[8]] 10, further comprising at least one additional anti-inflammatory agent.

15. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 14, wherein the additional anti-inflammatory agent is a chemokine modulator.

16. (Currently amended) A method for protecting or treating an individual against noxious stimuli [[and]] or inflammatory processes which comprises administering to an individual in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of ~~the skin extract~~ the pharmaceutical composition of claim [[1]] 10.

Claims 17-18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently amended) The method of claim 16, wherein the noxious stimuli ~~used to generate the factors~~ are selected from the group consisting of heat stimuli, cold stimuli, chemical stimuli, electric stimuli, ultraviolet irradiation, ionizing [[and]] radiation, non-ionizing irradiation, and ultrasound.

20. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the inflammatory processes are involved in a disease or condition selected from the group consisting of autoimmune diseases and chronic degenerative diseases.

21. (Currently amended) The method of claim 16, wherein the individual to be treated has a disease or condition selected from the group consisting of psoriasis, systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE), multiple sclerosis, inflammatory bowel disease including Crohn's disease, arthritis including rheumatoid arthritis, asthma, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer's disease, muscular dystrophy, sepsis, malignant tumors and benign tumors.

22. (Currently amended) The method of claim 16, wherein the ~~extract~~ pharmaceutical composition

is administered prior to onset of inflammation or exposure to the noxious stimulus.

23. (Currently amended) The method of claim 16, wherein the ~~extract~~ pharmaceutical composition is administered after onset of inflammation or exposure to the noxious stimulus.

24. (Currently amended) The method of claim 16, wherein the ~~extract~~ pharmaceutical composition is administered by parenteral injection.

25. (Original) The method of claim 24, wherein the injection is selected from the group consisting of intravenous, intramuscular, intradermal, intralesional, intrathecal and subcutaneous injections.

26. (Currently amended) The method of claim 16, wherein the ~~extract~~ pharmaceutical composition is administered via transdermal, oral, rectal, topical, nasal, inhalation and ocular modes of treatment.

Claims 27-35. (Cancelled)

36. (New) A peptide selected from the group consisting of:
H-Lys-Gly-Asn-Tyr-Ala-Glu-Arg-Ileu-Ala-OH (SEQ ID NO: 1);
H -Asp-Thr-Glu-Phe-Glu-Ala-Ala-Gly-Gly-Gly-Val-Arg-OH (SEQ ID NO:2);
H -Thr-Thr-Asp-Thr-Glu-Phe-Glu-Ala-Ala-Gly-Gly-Gly-Val-Arg-OH (SEQ ID NO:4);
H-Lys-Gly-Asn-Tyr-MeAla-Glu-Arg-Ileu-Ala-OH (SEQ ID NO: 5);
H-Lys-Gly-Asn-Tyr-Ala-Glu-Arg-MeIleu-Ala-OH (SEQ ID NO:6);
H-Lys-MeGly-Asn-Tyr-Ala-Glu-Arg-Ileu-Ala-OH (SEQ ID NO:7);
H-Lys-MeGly-Asn-Tyr-Ala-Glu-Arg-MeIleu-Ala-OH (SEQ ID NO:8);
H-Lys-Gly-His-Tyr-Ala-Glu-Arg-Val-Gly-OH (SEQ ID NO: 13);
H-Lys-Gly-Asn-Tyr-Ala-Glu-Arg-Val-Gly-OH (SEQ ID NO: 10);
H-Lys-Ala-His-Tyr-Ser-Glu-Arg-Val-Gly-OH (SEQ ID NO: 12);
H-Lys-Ser-Arg-Thr-Thr-Ser-His-Gly-Arg-Val-Gly-OH (SEQ ID NO: 14);

H-Lys-Gly-Asn-Tyr-Ser-Glu-Arg-Val-Gly-OH (SEQ ID NO:11);
H-Lys-MeGly-Asn-Tyr-MeAla-Glu-Arg-MeIleu-Ala-OH (SEQ ID NO:16); and
an analog, homolog, or derivative thereof.

37. (New) The peptide according to claim 36 consisting of the amino acid sequence H-Lys-Gly-Asn-Tyr-Ser-Glu-Arg-Val-Gly-OH (SEQ ID NO:11).

38. (New) The peptide according to claim 36 consisting of the amino acid sequence H-Lys-Gly-His-Tyr-Ala-Glu-Arg-Val-Gly-OH (SEQ ID NO: 13).

39. (New) A method for treating a degenerative disease in an individual which comprises administering to an individual in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition comprising as an active ingredient human fibrinopeptide A of SEQ ID NO:9 and a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or excipient.

40. (New) A method for treating a tumor in an individual which comprises administering to an individual in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition comprising as an active ingredient human fibrinopeptide A of SEQ ID NO:9 and a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or excipient.

41. (New) A method for treating a degenerative disease in an individual which comprises administering to an individual in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a peptide according to claim 36.

42. (New) A method for treating a degenerative disease in an individual which comprises administering to an individual in need of such treatment a pharmaceutical composition that includes a therapeutically effective amount of a peptide according to claim 36 and a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or excipient.

43. (New) A method for treating a tumor in an individual which comprises administering to an individual in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a peptide according to claim 36.

44. (New) A method for treating a tumor in an individual which comprises administering to an individual in need of such treatment a pharmaceutical composition that includes a therapeutically effective amount of a peptide according to claim 36 and a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or excipient.